

FIA Conference 2024

Where **passion**
meets **purpose**

Brisbane
28 Feb – 1 Mar

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How to engage respectfully with First Nations peoples

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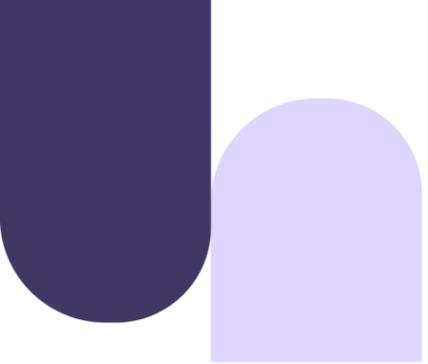
CHRIS MILLS, JAMIL TYE

MONASH UNIVERSITY



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Acknowledgement of Country

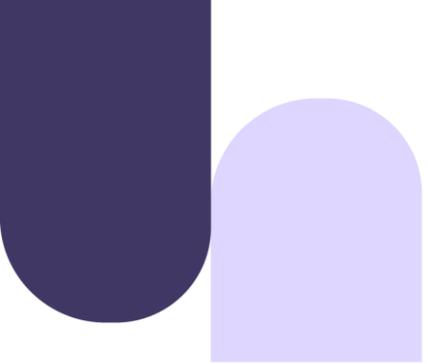
The Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre (BCEC) stands and operates on the place known as Kurilpa, a former hunting ground shared and travelled through by many First Nations Peoples including the Turrbal and Yuggera Peoples of Meeanjin.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which the BCEC now stands. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and recognise their enduring contribution to the culture and spirit of the land.



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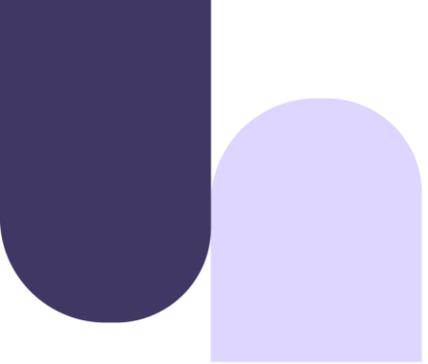


Chris Mills



Jamil Tye





Aims of the session

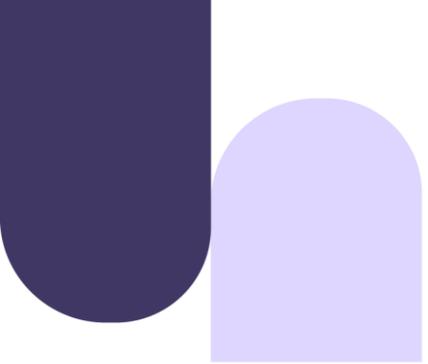
Deepening our understanding of:

- How we talk to and about First Nations peoples
- How we build relationships and trust with First Nations individuals, organisations and communities
- The underpinning principles that we need to grasp if we are to work together effectively and deliver programs and services that have a truly meaningful impact.



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Key takeaways

1:

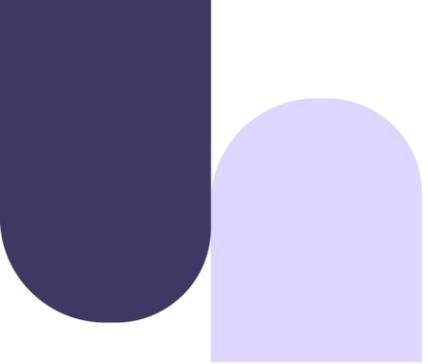
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are made up of over 250 different language groups spread across the nation. They don't all look the same or live in the same place. While there are commonalities as there are with all human beings, each community has unique needs and desires.

When engaging with First Nations Australians, it's not about you. Take the time to build a trusting relationship, listen, and be respectful of Aboriginal self-determination. Equally, communicate with purpose but not prescriptively (in other words, be transparent about what you want but be prepared to shape something together, not just work towards the outcomes you want).



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Key takeaways

2:

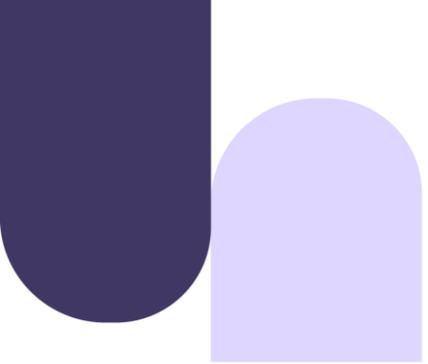
Colonisation has had a profound impact on First Nations Australians and we all have a role to play in closing the gap. Be led by Aboriginal people, and look for opportunities to empower First Nations individuals, organisations and communities.

If you're an organisation looking to positively impact First Nations communities within your sphere of influence, consider a first step such as developing a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

Enhance your understanding of cultural safety.

Get behind initiatives that strengthen education and employment pathways at a local level.

Economically empower First Nations Australians by engaging in cultural awareness training with First Nations practitioners, and engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander suppliers through databases like Kinaway and Supply Nation.



Key takeaways

3:

These things may seem simple, but they are powerful.

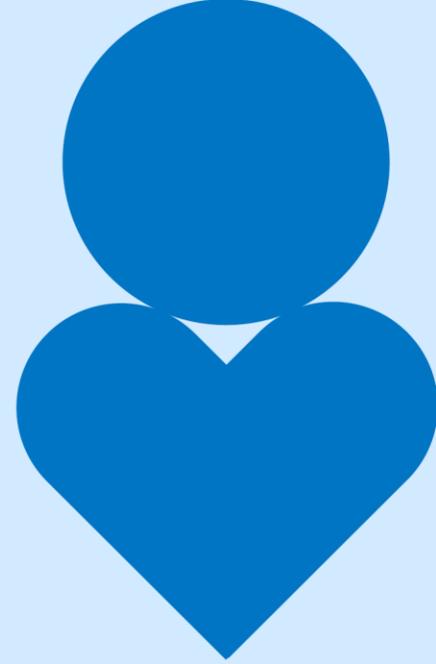
As you're navigating your way through, think deeply about what it means to listen to and be led by First Nations peoples. That is the most central tenet.



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Thank you



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